Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 24, through page 7, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

– One email service provider 12 provides email service to the computers 20, 22 of its customers, and the other email service provider 14 provides email service to the computers 24, 26 of its customers. Again, each email service provider 12, 14 will typically provide service to many more than two customers 20, 22, 24 and 26, with only two shown for each provider 12, 14 in Fig. 1 for simplicity. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 5, through page 7, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In the illustrative system 10 shown in Fig. 1, the customer computers , 20, 22, 24 and 26 communicate with the email service providers 12, 14 via a public service telephone network 30 using modems 34 associated with the customer computers , 20, 22, 24 and 26 and modems 38 at ports to the email service providers 12, 14. Such a method of transmitting electronic signals is well known to those skilled in the art and will not be described in detail here. Further, it should be understood that the present invention may be used with systems in which other structures are used to transmit electronic signals, such as digital subscriber lines (DSLs).--

Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 9, line 14 through page 10, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

-- Other options which may be chosen by the customer / email sender may include the following:

> A "target tagging" option can be provided for specifying whether or not the dynamic address should be linked to a particular destination address or name. For example, a text string could be entered which could be either encoded into the dynamic address or be stored locally and linked to an index encoded in the dynamic address by the email service provider 12, 14. This text would be added to incoming email messages sent to the dynamic address which would identify the original

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recipient of the address (e.g., identify the target email address of the original email to which the dynamic address was attached) so that email addressed to the dynamic address but not originating from the address of the original recipient could be identified and, if desired, filtered and not forwarded to the customer's computer 20, <u>22, 24 and</u> 26.

A "source filtering" option can be provided whereby the customer would specify as part of the "secure send" option that only email from the address of the original recipient of the email to which the dynamic address is appended would be accepted. Email to the dynamic address received from a different email address would be filtered by the email service provider 12, 14 of the customer and therefore would not be forwarded to the customer's computer 20, <u>22, 24 and</u> 26.

A "time limited filtering" option can also be provided whereby the customer would specify as part of the "secure send" option that email to the dynamic address should only be accepted for a specified period of time. Email to the dynamic address received after the specified time period would be rejected and not forwarded to the customer's computer 20, <u>22, 24 and</u> 26.

A "fixed number of uses" option can also be provided whereby the customer would specify as part of the "secure send" option that only a specified number of messages to the dynamic address should only be accepted. Email to the dynamic address after the specified number of messages have already been received would be rejected and not forwarded to the customer's computer 20, <u>22, 24 and</u> 26 .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, lines 7-21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 2 is a flow chart of an exemplary method for creating a dynamic address according to the present invention. Specifically, when an email service provider 12, 14 receives an email from a customer's computer <u>20, 22, 24 and 26</u> 20-24 for transmission

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to another (target) address, the provider 12, 14 would first check to see whether the customer selected a "secure send" option by checking for an indication of that selection in the email. If no such option is selected, then email would be handled in a normal manner by forwarding it to the target address (via another email service provider if necessary). As will be understood, when the customer is sending the email to trusted recipients such as business associates or family members, the "secure send" option would not be chosen, and the trusted associates would receive email from the customer with his actual email address indicated. However, when sending email to others, the "secure send" option causing use of the dynamic address according to the present invention would be chosen to protect the customer from receiving unwanted replies to that email.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 16 through page 14, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Specifically, email to the dynamic address is first identified by the email service provider of the customer to whom the email is directed via the dynamic address (e.g., by the fact that the email is addressed to the secure domain used for dynamic addresses).-

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